



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
Arkansas Field Office

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USDA TO SURVEY SMALL GRAINS FARMERS

Little Rock, AR – During the first two weeks of September, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will survey the growers of small grains, including wheat, oats, barley and rye. The results of this survey will provide an in-depth look into small grain production in the United States in 2012.

"As part of the September Agricultural Survey, we will contact more than 1,000 producers in Arkansas," said NASS Arkansas Field Office director Becky Cross. "The results of this survey will provide the basis for official USDA estimates of 2012 acreage, yield and production for small grains and county production estimates."

NASS will contact Arkansas small grains producers to gather information on their 2012 production and the quantities of corn, oats, sorghum, soybeans, and wheat stored on farm. Growers will have the option to respond online or by mail. Farmers who don't respond by August 30th will receive a phone call from a NASS-trained enumerator who will assist the farmer with filling out the survey form.

"I hope all respondents will take a few minutes to provide their input because, first and foremost, the data from the September Agricultural Survey will benefit the farmers themselves," added Cross. "The results of this survey will provide producers with timely, accurate and useful information to evaluate the outcome of the growing season and make critical year-end business decisions."

As with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential by law. NASS safeguards the privacy of all responses and publishes only state- and national-level data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified.

Survey results will be published in several reports, including the annual *Small Grains* summary and the quarterly *Grain Stocks* report, both to be released on September 30. These and all NASS reports are available online at www.nass.usda.gov. For more information call the NASS Arkansas Field Office at (800) 327-2970.

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